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A Question: What Is The Difference Between Shirk And Kufr?

Shaykh ‘Abdur-Rahman al-Barrak was asked:¹

What is the difference between shirk and kufr, and which of the two is general?

He replied:

All praise belongs to Allah. What is known is that from shirk is major and minor, likewise kufr. What is apparent from the question is in regards to the difference between major kufr and major shirk, as minor shirk and minor kufr are [both] from the types of sins, rather, the major sins. As for major shirk, it is to take a rival to Allah in worship, like what Allah (ta‘ala) said, “Oh mankind, worship... So do not set up a partner with Allah while you know.” And on the authority of ibn Mas‘ud (radiyallahu ‘anhu) that, “I said to the Prophet (sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam), ‘Oh Messenger of Allah, which sin is the greatest?’ He said, ‘That you set up a partner with Allah while He created you.’”

¹ Question #9 from the questions posed to him by members at the Ahl al-Hadith forum.

As for major kufr, then it is everything that nullifies the two testimonies; the testimony that la ilaha illallah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah. And it is well known that major shirk nullifies the testimony of la ilaha illallah from every side, so it is major kufr.

From kufr is takthib (belying) the Prophet (sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) outwardly, and it is juhud, or inwardly, and it is nifaq. From kufr is mocking Allah (‘azza wa jall), the Quran, or the Messenger (sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam), like what He (subhanahu) said, “Say: was it Allah, His ayat, His messenger, that you all were mocking? Make no excuses, verily, you have disbelieved after your iman.”

With this it becomes clear that between major shirk and major kufr is that which is general and that which is specific. Thus all major shirk is kufr, but not all major kufr is shirk.

FIVE MATTERS

WHICH ALLAH HAS COMMANDED ADHERENCE TO

ALLAH'S MESSENGER ﷺ SAID, "AND I ORDER YOU WITH [ADHERENCE TO] FIVE MATTERS THAT ALLAH HAS COMMANDED ME WITH..."



"...FOR INDEED, HE WHO SPLITS OFF FROM THE JAMA'AH SO MUCH AS A HAND SPAN HAS REMOVED THE COLLAR OF ISLAM FROM HIS NECK UNTIL HE RETURNS."

"AND HE WHO CALLS OUT WITH THE CALL OF JAHILIYYAH IS INDEED FROM THE PEOPLE OF HELL." SO A MAN SAID, "O MESSENGER OF ALLAH, EVEN IF HE PRAYS AND FASTS?" HE SAID, "[YES.] EVEN IF HE PRAYS AND FASTS. SO CALL OUT WITH THE CALL OF ALLAH WHO HAS NAMED YOU MUSLIMS, BELIEVERS, SLAVES OF ALLAH."

REPORTED BY AT-TIRMIDHI AND AHMAD

Shaykh 'Abdul-Latif Al ash-Shaykh رحمه الله said, "With regards to these five matters mentioned in the hadith, some scholars have joined them together with the Islamic pillars which the structure of Islam does not become upright and stable without. This is in contrast to what the Jahili era was upon, including the abandonment of listening and obeying, and the abandonment of the Jama'ah." (Ad-Durar as-Saniyyah)

Shaykhul-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah رحمه الله said, "The Muslims must be as a single hand against the disbelievers, and they must unite together and fight on the basis of obedience to Allah and His Messenger and waging jihad for His cause, for this is among the greatest fundamentals of Islam and among the greatest principles of iman with which Allah has sent His Messengers and with which He has revealed His Books. He has commanded His slaves to have unity and has forbidden them from dividing [into factions], as He ﷻ said, "To establish the religion and not be divided concerning it." (Al-Mustadrak 'ala al-Fatawa)

NABA INFOGRAPHIC
DHUL-QA'DAH 1439 AH



One Year On: Mosul

Still shook and whose hearts are terrified due to the presence of the muwahhidin that lurk on the outskirts of the city, moving in and out as they please, watching the moves of the mushrikin, preparing for the next strike against the failed Rafidi state, their masters walk the streets of a decimated Mosul with bullet proof vests while the remains of the city (which they attempt to hide) can be seen in the background. Is that liberation? Is that victory?



It goes without saying that they skimmed through the various pictures that were taken during their stroll through the once bustling city lit with the light of tawhid, now in the pummels of darkness, in order to find a photo that didn't highlight the complete destruction of Mosul. But, a year on, as

the blind kuffar refer to it, Mosul's ruin is more than evident.



In one of the most powerful and foresightly speeches in the history of the Islamic State Shaykh Abu Muhammad al-'Adnani (rahimahullah) gives a chilling message to the mushrikin. He said:

Listen, O America! Listen, O Crusaders! Listen, O Jews! Our Lord (‘azza wa jall) said, “And Our word has passed for Our slaves, the Messengers, that they would be supported and that Our soldiers would indeed prevail” (As-Saffat 171-173). “Fight them, Allah will punish them by your hands, and He will disgrace them and give you victory over them, satisfying the hearts of a believing people and removing the fury of their hearts” (At-Tawbah 14-15). Indeed, we await what He (subhanahu) has promised and we have confidence in Him. So your armies and your masses will never scare us. Your threats and your campaigns will not dissuade us. **You will never be victorious.** You will be defeated. Or do you think, O America, that victory is by killing one leader or another? Indeed, it would then be a falsified victory. Were you victorious when you killed Abu Mus‘ab, Abu Hamzah, Abu ‘Umar, or Usamah? Would you be victorious if you were to kill ash-Shishani, Abu Bakr, Abu Zayd, or Abu ‘Amr? No. Indeed, victory is the defeat of one’s opponent. **Or do you,** O America, consider defeat to be the loss of a city or the loss of land? **Were we defeated when we lost the cities in Iraq and were in the desert without any city or land?** And would we be defeated and you be victorious if you were to take Mosul or Sirte or Raqqa or even take all the cities and we were to return to

our initial condition? Certainly not! True defeat is the loss of willpower and desire to fight.

America will be victorious and the mujahidin will be defeated in only one situation. We would be defeated and you victorious only if you were able to remove the Quran from the Muslims’ hearts. How impossible a feat! How far off a task it would be! Rather, we are the People of the Quran, who sell their souls for Paradise...



Listen, O Americans, and understand. **What have you accomplished after these 13 years of war against the mujahidin in Mesopotamia, and what have they accomplished?**

Indeed, you came to Iraq with tens, or rather, hundreds of thousands, while we were only a few hundred, or rather, dozens, more or less. It was only three years before Rumsfeld declared resignation, incapacity, and defeat; and the mujahidin declared the establishment of the Islamic State.

“How many a small group was victorious over a large group, by the permission of Allah; and Allah is with those who persevere” (Al-Baqarah 249).

Thus, America was defeated, as its army faced ruin and collapse, except that it was rescued by the sahwat of treachery and shame. Then came the established way of Allah (‘azza wa jall) of testing and trying the mujahidin, so the trial increased and the tribulation intensified, until consolidation was lost in the cities. But this only increased the mujahidin in patience and certainty.

It occurred to America that it was the golden opportunity to run away. So Obama the Liar declared victory and withdrawal. O you failed, defeated mule! **Where is your alleged victory? Where is the new map of the Middle East brought by America? Have you forgotten or do you feign to forget? Or is it us who have drawn it, with your ruin and end coming imminently? Where is the “free, united” Iraq? Where is democracy? Do you deceive yourself, your people, and the world? Or do you now acknowledge the Islamic State? Where are the promised security, development, and prosperity?**

Were you lying, O America, or are you simply unable to fulfill promises? Have you made the world safer by waging war against us, America, or has fear and ruin become the norm? Let Canada,

France, Tunisia, Turkey, and Belgium bear witness. Have you eradicated terrorism and extinguished the fire of jihad, or has it spread and risen, reaching into every land? Have you succeeded against the mujahidin, or have we declared the Khilafah and are we blessed, by Allah’s grace, with consolidation!

Hold on, America; the war is not over and you have yet to win. By Allah’s permission, **you will be defeated**, so wait. **Wait**, for our swords have not been sheathed, our arms have not become weary, and our resolve has not weakened. We have not become bored nor frail; rather, by Allah’s grace, our strength has multiplied exponentially since the beginning of your war, America. Every day that passes, we gain strength, by Allah’s grace, and you become weaker.²



² An excerpt from his last released speech entitled “That They Live By Proof.”



Shaykh Sulayman ibn Sahman (رحمته الله) said:

قال الشيخ سليمان ابن سحمان رحمه الله:

THE TAGHUT IS OF THREE TYPES:

1 TAGHUT OF HUKM (RULING)

2 TAGHUT OF 'IBADAH
(WORSHIP)

3 TAGHUT OF TA'AH AND
MUTABA'AH
(OBEDIENCE AND FOLLOWING).

أن الطاغوت ثلاثة أنواع:

طاغوت حكم، وطاغوت عبادة، وطاغوت طاعة ومتابعة



الدرر السننية 10/503

What Is Said About Someone Who Dies Before This Da'wah Reaches Him?

Some of the leading scholars of the Da'wah were asked "when a believer in Allah and His messenger were to say or do something that is kufr while he is ignorant of that, then there is no takfir of him until the proof of the prophetic Message is established against him. If he was to be killed in this state of his before this da'wah becomes apparent, what is to be done?"

They replied:

If he was doing kufr and shirk due to his ignorance or due to the absence of anyone who could clarify it for him, then we do not judge him with kufr until the hujjah has been established against him. However, we do not give him the hukm that he is Muslim. Rather, we say that this action of his is kufr which permits the wealth and blood [of an individual], even though we do not rule upon this specific individual due to the lack of the hujjah being established against him.

It is not said: if he is not a kafir then he is Muslim. No, we say his action is the actions of kuffar and ruling upon this individual specifically is dependent on the reaching of prophetic proof.

The people of knowledge have made mention that the people of the fatrah³ are to be tested on the Day of Resurrection while in that condition. They did not make their ruling the [same] ruling of the kuffar, nor the [same] ruling of the abrar (righteous).⁴

Outlining some issues and matters, Shaykh Husayn and Shaykh 'Abdullah, the sons of Shaykh al-Mujaddid Muhammad ibn 'Abdil-Wahhab (rahimahumullah) said about "whoever dies before this da'wah and did not know of Islam nor of these action the people today commit due to the hujjah not being established; what is his ruling?"

They wrote:

Whoever died from the people of shirk before this da'wah reached him (i.e., before the hujjah), when he is known for having performed shirk and taken that as his din, then his apparent ruling

³ This is in usual reference to the time between our prophet Muhammad (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) and the prophet 'Isa ('alayhis-salatu was-salam) but scholars have also referred to it in reference to a time or place where knowledge is scarce and ignorance is pre-dominant.

⁴ *Ad-Durar as-Saniyyah*, v. 10, p. 136-137. *Ar-Rasail wal-Masail an-Najdiyyah*, v. 5, p. 576.

is that he died upon kufr. No supplication, sacrifice, or charity is done on his behalf. As for the true reality of his affair, then it is left to Allah (ta'ala). Thus if the hujjah was established against him in his life, and he was obstinate, then he is kafir inside and out. And if the hujjah was not established against him, then his affair is left to Allah.⁵

To elaborate and explain further on what is meant here is that there is a distinction made between the asma (labels) and ahkam (rulings) of the Din before the hujjah and after the hujjah in relation to that which nullifies asl ad-Din. So the one who performs major shirk and major kufr in which nullifies asl ad-Din is given the general label of kufr and shirk (i.e., a mushrik kafir). However, the ruling that these labels imply is suspended⁶ and attached to the hujjah, as there is no punishment until after the hujjah.

Shaykhul-Islam ibn Taymiyyah (rahimahullah) explains:

Verily, Allah separated between what is before the Message and what comes after it in regards to asma and ahkam, and also gathered them together...

⁵ *Ad-Durar as-Saniyyah*, v. 10, p. 142.

⁶ Meaning, the ahkam of the Hereafter. As for the ruling in this world, then it is based upon what is apparent, and what is apparent is shirk and kufr.

Thus the label of shirk is established before the Message due to him performing shirk with his Lord and sets up with Him another ilah and rival before the Messenger. So these asma are established [before the Message]. Likewise the label of jahl (ignorance) and jahiliyyah, and it is said “jahiliyyah” and “jahil” before the coming of the Messenger. As for punishment, then no.

And turning away from obedience, like His saying, “He neither believe, nor perform salah, rather he belied and turned away,”⁷ is only after the coming of the Messenger. Similar to that is His saying about Fir'awn, “He belied and disobeyed.” Thus this was after the coming of the messenger to him as He (ta'ala) said, “Then he (i.e., Musa) showed him the great sign, but he belied and disobeyed.”⁸ And He said, “But Fir'awn disobeyed the messenger.”^{9 10}

⁷ *Al-Qiyamah*: 31-32.

⁸ *An-Nazi'at*: 20-21.

⁹ *Al-Muzzamil*: 16.

¹⁰ *Majmu' al-Fatawa*, v. 20, p. 37-38.

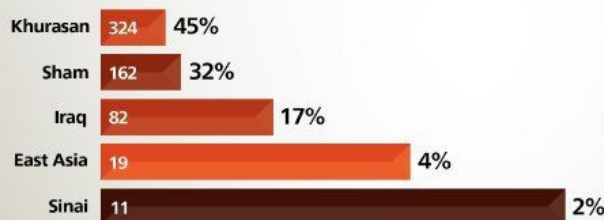
HARVEST OF SOLDIERS

MILITARY OPERATIONS ACROSS
THE WILAYAT OF THE ISLAMIC STATE

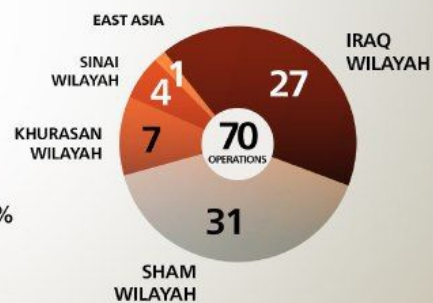
DURING THE COURSE OF ONE WEEK
FROM 28 SHAWWAL TO
5 DHUL-QA'DAH 1439 AH



CASUALTY FIGURES FOR EACH REGION



NUMBER OF OPERATIONS IN EACH REGION



NUMBER OF OPERATIONS IN EACH OF THE REGIONS OF SHAM WILAYAH



NUMBER OF OPERATIONS IN EACH OF THE REGIONS OF IRAQ WILAYAH



NABA INFOGRAPHIC
DHUL-QA'DAH 1439 AH



News Headlines

- By Allah's success, the Khilafah soldiers ambushed a group of Peshmerga murtaddin in Jabal Makhmur to the southeast of Mosul. They detonated on them a number of explosive devices and clashed with them using light and medium weaponry for several hours, killing and injuring not less than 21 murtaddin, and all praise is due to Allah.

- 4 PKK militia personnel were killed, including a commander, in an attack by Islamic State fighters in the water pumping station in az-Zur town in the Deir al-Zour countryside

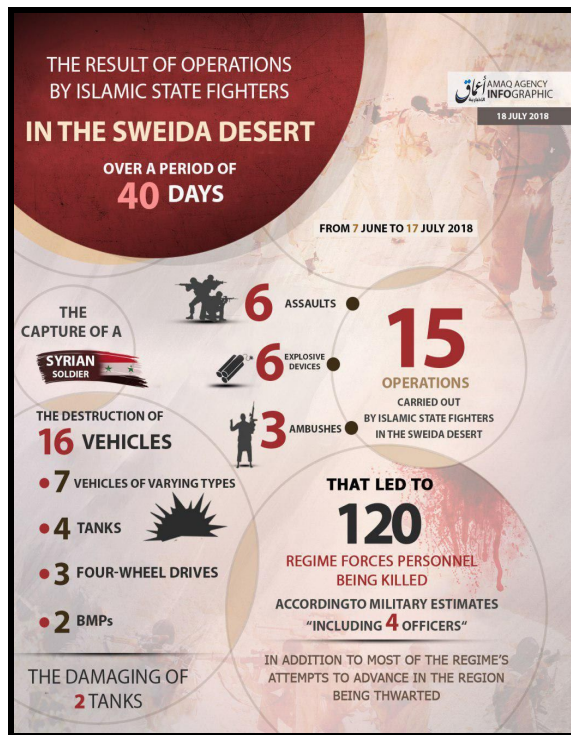
- With success from Allah, the Khilafah soldiers managed to deter the scourge of the murtadd Nusayri army on Jalin and Tal 'Ashtra in the Dar'a countryside, where they clashed with them using diverse weaponry, leading to the killing of more than 25 murtaddin and injuring of others, and those remaining of them returning in disappointment and loss, and all praise is due to Allah. Separately, the mujahidin managed to seize control over a number of villages in the Dar'a countryside - al-Bakkar, al-Abdali, al-Jabilliya, al-Maqrar, Sidi al-Maqrar, al-Mu'laqa, al-Majahid, ad-Dara'iyat, Abu Hajir, al-Mashida, 'Ayn Zubda, Sidi al-Jabilliya - and capture ghanimah of a variety of weapons and ammunition, following an attack resulting in the fleeing of the Sahwat of apostasy and

betrayal from them, as they intended to hand them to the Nusayri army, according to an agreement made in advance and all praise is due to Allah.

- 3 Dagestan policemen are assassinated by the Islamic State fighters in the city of Kizilyurt in the middle of Dagestan with fire arms

- By Allah's grace, the soldiers of the Khilafah succeeded in capturing the following villages in the Qunaytirah countryside: Sayda, Hanut, Ghadir al-Bustan, 'Ayn al-Qadi, Umm al-Lawqas, and Hayran. They also took a variety of weapons and ammo as ghanimah. This came after the apostate Sahwat withdrew from these villages with the intent of handing them over to the Nusayri Army and settling their cases in accordance with a previously agreement. Afterwards, the Nusayri Army and pro-Nusayri militias attempted to infiltrate the village of Ghadir al-Bustan, but the mujahidin, who were lying in wait for them, thwarted their attempted advance and defeated them, and all praise is due to Allah.

-5 Afghan forces were killed and injured and a 4-wheel drive vehicle was destroyed in the detonation of 2 explosive devices near the Behsud bridge in the city of Jalalabad in Nangarhar.



- Amaq Agency - Dar'a: With a level of coordination that resembled what occurred in the southern neighborhoods of Damascus as well as other areas, the armed opposition signed peace accords and agreements with the Syrian regime whose terms dictated that they were to surrender the areas in Daraa and Quneitra that they controlled in exchange for either having their cases with the regime settled, or being transferred to northwestern Syria, or even joining the pro-regime militias. The agreement was reached and those who wanted to leave for Idlib and the Aleppo countryside began boarding buses. It was at this point that Islamic State fighters advanced towards the areas that were to be surrendered to the regime and took control of the villages and towns of Bakar, 'Abdali, Jubailiyya, Miqriz, the

Miqriz Dam, Mu'allaaqa, Majahid, Dar'iyyat, Abu Hajar, Mushida, 'Ain Zubaida, the Jubailiyya Dam, Sayda, Hanut, Ghadir al-Bustan, 'Ain al-Qadhi, Umm al-Luqas, and Hairan in the Daraa and Quneitra countrysides. Islamic State fighters also repelled an attack launched by pro-regime militias towards the village of Ghadir al-Bustan in the Quneitra countryside following their capture of it.

- With success from Allah, the soldiers of the Khilafah succeeded in repelling an attempted advance carried out by the murtadd Nusayri army on the axes of Jalin, 'Ashtara hill and Jamu' hill in the countryside of Dar'a, where clashes took place during which various types of weapons were used, resulting in dozens of murtaddin being killed and wounded with the rest fleeing in defeat. Likewise, the mujahidin targeted a tank and a Shilka vehicle with guided missiles on the outskirts of Jalin town and on Jamu' hill, resulting in their destruction with their crew being killed. Moreover, the support units targeted the Tha'lah airport located towards the west of Swayda with many 130mm artillery shells, and all praise is due to Allah.

- 5 Iraqi army personnel were killed and injured in an attack by Islamic State fighters on barracks in Umm Talil village in the west of al-'Adhim district in Diyala.

- 6 Egyptian force personnel were killed and injured by sniper fire in the area of Kilo 17th towards west 'Arish

- 3 Filipino soldiers are killed as a result of artillery bombardment in the Sulu islands in the southern Philippines

- Amaq Agency - Dar'a: An Islamic State martyrdom-seeker detonated his explosive vehicle in the midst of regime forces personnel and pro-regime militias near Ain Zubaida village, killing and wounding dozens of them, in addition to destroying several vehicles. Meanwhile, on the outskirts of Jalin town located towards the west of Dar'a, regime forces attempted to advance on the town, with fierce clashes taking place in which at least 23 regime soldiers were killed and others wounded. Islamic State fighters also destroyed 3 tanks using guided missiles, and destroyed a fourth tank as well as a Shilka vehicle during the confrontations, which then forced the regime forces to retreat without making any progress. Russian and Syrian aircraft continue to intensively bomb the villages and towns under the control of the Islamic State with various types of bombs and missiles, averaging more than 100 airstrikes per day, some of which employed white phosphorus bombs, in addition to almost non-stop artillery shelling.

- After trusting in Allah, a group of Khilafah soldiers attacked an al-Agheila police station to the west of Ajdabiya, and which belongs to the militia of the murtadd Haftar. Following clashes using diverse weaponry, Allah enabled them to kill and injure 7 murtaddin and arrest 2 others. Meanwhile, the station

and 3 vehicles were burned, and all praise is due to Allah.

- Source in Islamic State Security to A'maq: The attacker in the city of Toronto in southeastern Canada Sunday night was a soldier of the Islamic State, and he carried out the attack in response to the call to target citizens of coalition nations.

- After trusting in Allah, the Khilafah soldiers executed a surprise attack on security and government centers inside as-Suwayda city, where they clashed with Nusayri army personnel and pro-regime militias and then detonated their explosive vests in their midst after exhausting their ammunition. The toll of the as-Suwayda attack rose to over 170 killed and 200 injured from the regime forces and the militias loyal to them.

- 14 murtadd Somali soldiers were killed and wounded in Shabili after an explosion device was detonated on one of their gatherings. And all praise belongs to Allah.

